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HOUSE BILL 1389

By Scroggs

AN ACT to amend Titles 8, 49 and 71 of the Tennessee Code Annotated, relative to rehabilitation services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-42-101(3), is amended by deleting the word "and" at the end of subdivision (C); and is further amended by deleting the period (.) at the end of subdivision (D) and by substituting instead a semicolon (;); and is further amended by deleting the period at the end of subdivision (E) and substituting instead the punctuation and language "; and"; and is further amended by adding the following new subdivision (F):

(F) "State employee" also means a person acting under a contract to provide services to or on behalf of applicants for, or recipients of, assistance from the rehabilitation services division of the department of human services solely while such person is providing transportation services with a state vehicle to such applicants or recipients and while such person is otherwise acting within the scope of the contract. Such person shall not be considered a state employee for any other purpose including, but not limited to, the provision of workers compensation by the state of Tennessee.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, title 71, chapter 1, part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

71-1-116. Authority of certain volunteers and contractors to use state vehicles to assist rehabilitation services clients.—

Volunteers registered with the board of claims as required by § 8-42-101(3)(B), and any persons acting under a contract with the rehabilitation services division of the department of human services, who provide services to or on behalf of applicants for, or recipients of, assistance from the rehabilitation services division, are specifically authorized to use state vehicles either in the performance of assigned volunteer duties for such applicants or recipients, or in the performance of transportation services attendant to and within the scope of services contracted by the division on behalf of such applicants or recipients. Volunteers, and persons who are under a contract, providing services pursuant to this subdivision shall comply with all policies and regulations of the departments of general services and human services relating to the operation of state vehicles.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.